

Jesus Got Away ~ Communion Meditation

In John 12, the Lord said, "And I, if I, be lifted up, I will draw all men unto me." But this He said signifying by what manner of death He should glorify God. The lifting up of Jesus showed the true purpose Jesus came into the world. He came to die on the cross.

The Devil knew that it was God's plan for Jesus to die on the cross, and the Devil will try to foul up any plan God may have, so he tried to thwart the plan to crucify Jesus by killing Jesus some other way.

The first thing the Devil tried was to kill Him by abortion. Caesar Augustus made a decree that all the world should be enrolled. This law made it necessary for Mary and Joseph to make a long hazardous trip that could cause a woman to lose the baby. The Devil had this in mind, but when an angel appeared to the shepherds as they watched their flocks by night near Bethlehem, and announced: There is born to you this day in the city of David a Saviour who is Christ the Lord, the Devil knew his plan had failed, because Jesus got away.

Then the Devil tried to kill Him again in Luke 4 when He preached in His hometown of Nazareth, and told them the scripture was being fulfilled concerning His coming into the world as the Christ. This time they led Him out to the brow of the hill where their city was built to cast him down headlong without parachute, or bungy cord. At the last moment Jesus used His majestic power, and passing through the midst of them went His way. Again the Devil knew he had failed again, because Jesus got away.

Again the Devil tried to kill Jesus a third way in John 8, this time by stoning him. Jesus had identified Himself for who He really was when He said; "Before Abraham was born I AM." The chief priests knew exactly what He meant and, took up stones to cast at Him, but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the Temple. The Devil knew at that moment he had failed again, because Jesus got away.

Finally the Devil was sure he had won, when Jesus was crucified on the cross, and a spear pierced His side as

sure fire proof that Jesus was in fact dead, and no one could say that He never really died, but merely swooned. But when He arose from the dead early on the third day, and a delegation of the guards at the tomb came and reported to the chief priests that the tomb was empty, the Devil knew he had failed again, because Jesus got away.

When the Lord arose from the dead we remember that Paul tells us in 1st Corinthians 15 that Jesus was the first born from the dead, and the risen Christ could say in Revelation 1, I AM He that was dead, and now behold I AM alive forever more, and I have the keys of death and of Hades. Jesus can unlock every grave, and open every casket, and now the faithful Christian can remember as they eat of the loaf and drink of the cup; since Jesus got away; they can sing, "Some glad morning when the sun shall shine, I too, shall get away." The Son of man must be lifted up.

Another reason Jesus said he would be lifted up was because of the crucifixion it would draw all men unto Him. The power of the cross began to be shown even at the cross. One of the two thieves was drawn to Jesus by the cross. At the moment of His death the Roman Centurion said, truly this was the Son of God. Joseph of Arimathea a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews came to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus, and there also came Nicodemus. Then it was only fifty days after the crucifixion on the Day of Pentecost, the story of the crucifixion drew 3,000 to accept the terms of pardon given that day as the New Covenant of salvation through the blood of Christ was revealed that would draw all men unto Him. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up.

There is a gospel chorus the young people used to sing many years ago that glorified the lifting up of Jesus. From sinking sand he lifted me. With tender hand He lifted me. From shades of night, to realms of light, Oh praise His name He lifted me. And I, if I, be lifted up will draw all men unto me.

The RESURRECTION of DORCAS

In Acts 9, There was at Joppa a certain woman named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas: this woman was full of good works and alms deeds, which she did. She fell sick and died, and since Peter was only a short distance away they sent for him and he came. When he came they brought him into the upper room where the body lay, and the saints and widows were weeping and showing the garments Dorcas made while she lived.

Peter entered into the upper chamber where the body lay. After hearing of her many good works, Peter put them all out of the room, kneeled down, prayed, and said to the body, "Dorcas, arise." She opened her eyes and when she saw Peter she sat up, and Peter gave her his hand and raised her up; and calling the saints and widows presented her alive.

Notice also there were saints in the church at Joppa. All the members of the church in the New Testament were saints. Here is a sampling of a few of them. In 1st Corinthians 14:33 Paul uses the phrase, "All the churches of the saints." In 2nd Corinthians 13:13, "All the saints salute you." In Romans 1:7 Paul greets the church at Rome "Beloved of God, called to be saints," Philippians 1:1 "Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, to all the saints in Christ that are at Philipi." Jude 3, "Contend earnestly for the faith once delivered unto the saints."

The word saint is used forty-one times in the New Testament, and the same Greek word is used every time. One of the good works mentioned in the New Testament in 1st Timothy 5:10 is "washing the saints feet." So a Christian is a Saint, and a Saint is a Christian from head to toe before he dies. If you are not a saint before you die, the Bible does not mention an alternate plan to become a saint.

We need to take note of the coats, and garment Dorcas made. We can only imagine what a coat made by Dorcas found by the archeologist would be worth today if one could be found. If someone would tell me, "I like that coat you are wearing, what is the name of the tailor?" I might say, "Oh, I don't know, I paid five dollars for it in a garage sale." Let me see that coat. They look inside, take one look at the label, and exclaim: "Holy cow, you've got a Dorcas. I'll give you a million dollars for that coat." "No thank you, I'll just wear it myself."

* * *

UPDATE FROM IKE & LEE PERTEY

We salute every one of you out there with a holy kiss. **FIANKO**

Finally, that church here for the people and the already won souls has been possible though we still have to renovate the structure under which we worship. We would have to shift to one side of the classroom if it rains during worship and we still need to get the bare and cracked floor also mended. We couldn't do all these due to finance, but we shall keep working on it as we worship in there. The rains are already here and the torrential rains have already claimed lives and we need to have this amendments or renovations done before it is too late. At the moment, we are hiring chairs. The congregation would buy her on chairs as time goes on.

We thank you and GIJAPA for the clothing; they have helped our ministry a lot. Several people who want to attend church but are not able due to lack of good clothes are now attending church. Our frequency of traveling would now be more than before. We are worshipping on only in the evenings of Sundays between 4pm and 6pm, because Ike teaches Bible class at Parkside Church of Christ at Bawjiase before we leave for Fianko.

LESSONS

More people are enrolling for the course and more students are sending back their completed lessons for grading. As of the time of going to press, we have 659 new letters requesting to be enrolled in the course, 189 of these letters said they are Moslems--PTL!!! We are trying as much as possible to satisfy every one of these students but we take a critical look at the content of the letters before we send the lessons. More lessons too are being sent out to numerous churches and congregations of the Church of Christ, and we have more 'Pastors' of other churches taking the course.

ED'S SERMONS TRANSLATIONS

This project initiated by us has been very, very fruitful and winning souls for Christ. It has also given opportunity to the several people in the country who for one reason or the other cannot hear the radio broadcast on radio to also listen to it. We baptized 12 people in June 2007 through this project. It is very good and easiest way to preach to the people. The kind of cassette recorder we use alone attracts people to come closer to look at it and to listen to the sermon as we translate them in our native tongue to the people.

<u>VEHICLE</u>

As you can see from the above, our need for a vehicle for the work is becoming more and more urgent. Now we are traveling more than before. Thursdays and Sundays we are at Fianko and its environs and other villages far from Fianko because the people there want to walk to Fianko to worship till they have a church in their villages. Thank you and stay blessed! Ike and Lee – THE TRUTH-GHANA, W. AFRICA

LETTERS

* * *

Brother Ed Bousman,

Greetings to you in the precious name of the Lord Jesus. Sir, it was such a delight to hear your gospel broadcast "God Is Just A Prayer Away" every Sunday morning over Sri Lanka Broadcasting. I found your sermons very helpful in my walk with God and to discover the truth of the Bible without compromise. I give thanks to the God through His Son Jesus Christ for raising up such a faithful preacher like you. And I beg God to bless your ministry and also please pray for me a young man who has just given my life to Jesus. I need your support of prayers to triumph in this fallen world. Lastly before I conclude I humbly request you to please send the free gospel Bible lessons that you just announced at the end of your broadcast. So please send by post on the address given below. Thank you and May God bless you. From your listening friend Mr. Lanokiso from Meghalaya, India

"May the Love of our father God, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you now and forever, Amen."

Beloved Ed and Naomi, thank you very much for inspiring spiritual material--the newsletter. May the gracious Lord bless you according His riches through His Son Jesus Christ, for your unreserved effort in the extension of the Kingdom of the Eternal God and please always keep in mind that He will reward you when He comes again, for all you are doing now. I and my family members have profited in my spiritual growth by the material you send me and am grateful for all these. May the almighty Lord bless you and your ministry?

Filmon T from Eritrea, E. Africa

Dear Mr. Ed Bousman,

Sir my name is Deborah my son Kenneth mailed me one of your GIJAPA pamphlets; it has his letter printed in it where he wrote and asked you for a Bible. My son is in Wrightsville Prison in Arkansas and will be for another 6-8 months. I sure do need my son at home my health is not good I have a bad heart I would love to have a big Bible too. I'm on disability and would love to receive any of your Bible studies that you can send me. I didn't know about you until my son sent this paper home for me to put up for him, I sure will be listening to your radio program every Sunday at 9:30 PM over KAAY Little Rock, AR. Thank you for being there for my son and me.

Deborah, Jacksonville, AR

Dear Brother Ed,

Grace and peace from God be unto you through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour, Amen. Thanks to almighty God so much that I received from you tracts, monthly newsletter, certificate of completion for "Studies in the Bible" and "Discipling For Jesus." Now I just completed the first five lessons of Christian Doctrine and waiting for the next lessons. The situation of this country, Eritrea is no change at all to persecution of Christians. Many Christians are in prison. Please pray for our country. May God richly bless you and keep you all. Amen. Your brother in Christ, Mesfin from Eritrea, E. Africa.

May each one of us reading this STOP and thank God for the FREEDOM we have here in AMERICA to worship Him without persecution.

Dear Brother Ed,

I had actually listened to you in 1971-72 when I used to drive for assignments for my NYC employer from Cincinnati. At that time I was a Catholic and did not know so much about the Bible and I found you very interesting and loved your program. I left the Catholic Church in 1982 when I became a born again Bible believer and found out many of the things you taught now jumped off of the page as I read God's word. The Catholic Church seemed dead and never really taught God's word with anointing like you do. I found out last year I could still get you on the computer by downloading the broadcast and I'm sending check to your ministry. Thanks and praise the Lord.

Love John from Johnstown, PA

Dear Brother Ed Bousman,

I greet you in the name of Jesus Christ, our common Lord and Savior.

How very pleased I was to receive your mail. I am thinking of you and your good works for the Lord there. May God continue to bless you and your family. You make my faith grow.

You sent me 10 lessons from 1-30 with 10 Bibles which I have already given to the students. I would like you to send us more lessons again.

Further more, I am happy to inform you that we will highly appreciate to receive clothes, tracts, and NIV Bibles. And please send us a tray for communion, baptism certificates, Sunday school materials and shoes for male and female. Many people will see Jesus through these gifts.

We look forward to continue working closely with you and your ministry.

With much love, JOHN (Evangelist-Church of Christ, Box 110159, Solwezi, Zambia)

* * *

"THE CHURCH AND THE BUILDING..."

We built and dedicated our new Church House To the glory and honor of **JESUS'** Name... But lest we forget~ The Church and the building Are truly not one and the same.

For the building is but wood, brick, and mortar... 'Tis just a shelter from the wind and the rain~ 'Cause with or without the building, The **Church** is still the **Church**, Whether it meets under roof Or upon the open plain...

A beautiful building can be a blessing, So long at God's people remember That we're the key, That opens the doors of the Church to others, As they see **JESUS** living in thee and me...

Surely, the Church was no less potent, When in caves and catacombs they met~ And tho' we owe the bank for the building, We owe Christ's Blood a far greater debt...

Pray! Rededicate thyselves, O Church, To the work and service of the Lord, As lively stones that **JESUS** built, Mortared together in one accord.

by Bob Wickline, Evangelist of Saltair Church of Christ - Bethel, Ohio

★ Hillsboro Family Camp Schedule 🛧

July 29th - August 2nd, 2007

Sunday Morning Schedule: Sunday School - 9:30 AM Kerry Allen Worship - 10:30 AM Ed Bousman Area Rally - Sunday 7 PM Sid Clay, Speaker and Area Talent Ladies Session - Wednesday 2 PM Emma Cooper, Speaker

Time Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
9:00 - 9:30		Family Worship	
9:40 - 10:10	Jason Pancake	John Witt	Don Cooper
10:10 - 10:20	Special Music	Special Music	Special Music
10:20 - 10:50	Don Cooper	Tom Arehart	Kendall Faull
10:50 - 11:00	Special Music	Special Music	Special Music
11:00 - 11:30	Danny Gabbard	Kevin Yeager	George Faull
11:35 - 11:40	Closing Prayer	Closing Prayer	Closing Prayer
11:45 - 2:00		Dinner Break	
2:00 - 2:05	Scripture / Prayer	Scripture / Prayer	Scripture / Prayer
2:05 - 2:15		Congregational Singing	
2:15 - 2:55	Special Session	Bobby Wallace	3 x 5 Session
2:55 - 3:05		Congregational Singing	
3:05 - 3:10	Special Music	Special Music	Special Music
3:10 - 3:50	John Pierce	David Jones	Dave Thurman
3:55 - 4:00	Closing Prayer	Closing Prayer	Closing Prayer
4:00 - 7:00		Supper Break	
7:00 - 7:05 Scripture / Pra	ayer Scripture / Prayer	Scripture / Prayer	Scripture / Prayer
7:05 - 7:20 Concert	Concert	Concert	Concert
7:20 - 7:50 Ray Benne	ett George Faull	Lee Mason	Mark Seevers
7:50 - 8:10		Congregational Singing	
8:10 - 8:15		Offering	
8:15 - 8:20 Special Mus	sic Special Music	Special Music	Special Music
8:20 - 8:50 David Jone	es Dale Holzbauer	Troy Northrup	Ed Bousman
8:55 - 9:00 Closing Pray	yer Closing Prayer	Closing Prayer	Closing Prayer



Lynchburg, Ohio 45142 Return Service Requested

ED BOUSMAN

Evangelistic Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 511